

# Auto Burglary Burglaries Have Risen Dramatically in Frisco

## *Learn How you can Avoid Becoming the Next Victim!*

In just this past year alone Auto Burglaries in Frisco have risen dramatically. For example, In December of 2006 there were 102 reported vehicle burglaries, up from 64 in December of 2005 – a 59.4% increase in one year's time. Burglary of Motor Vehicle (BMV) cases can be very difficult to solve as, typically, little physical evidence is left behind.

These offenses occur during all hours of the day, affecting both residential and business areas. However, in many cases these vehicle burglaries have been crimes of opportunity and could have possibly been avoided if preventative measures were taken.

Here are some simple vehicle burglary prevention tips to follow that may help keep you, your family, friends or neighbors from becoming a victim. These steps should be used whenever and wherever you park your vehicle, whether you are just “running in for a minute” or parking for the evening.

- **ALWAYS close your windows, lock your vehicle and garage doors** - an open or unlocked window/garage door is an invitation to a criminal and an easy target.
- **Park in well lit areas close to the building** - or if at home in the garage (always the best option).
- **If you must park in your driveway utilize (or install) floodlights** - installed above/around your garage set on a motion detector to illuminate your driveway, as this will help discourage a Burglar (lighting is one of the best property crime deterrents).
- **ALWAYS remove loose valuables from your vehicle** - including the garage door opener (if taken an easy way for a Burglar to gain entry into your home).
- **This includes purses, wallets, cellular phones, laptop computers, loose change, briefcases, etc.** A car burglar loves to see items that can be grabbed easily and carried away without much effort.
- **A brick through the window takes only seconds and is all it takes to gain access to these loose items.**
- **ALWAYS set your car alarm (if so equipped)** and take note of any car alarms you hear going off in your vicinity.
- **Don't hesitate to call 911 to report suspicious persons** - seen wandering around in parking lots/neighborhoods (particularly after hours) and/or looking into cars as they walk by. Police Officers cannot be everywhere, so we count on citizens to be our “eyes” and “ears” and report these types of suspicious activities.
- **Record the make, model and serial number of all your commonly used electronic equipment** (even if you plan on never leaving these devices in your vehicle). Having this information available is necessary in order to enter the items

into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) computer database This will aid police in trying to locate the items if the offender(s) are found with them or if they are pawned. This will also ensure the property is returned to the rightful owner.

- **Get involved in neighborhood watch efforts** - Become a Frisco Neighborhood Watch Block Captain. Go to [www.frisconeighborhoodwatch.com](http://www.frisconeighborhoodwatch.com) for more information

The Frisco Police Department has enacted a vehicle burglary action plan designed to increase both detection/apprehension and public education/awareness efforts. The Frisco Police Department is asking that every citizen to do their part in helping to fight crime by taking both preventive action and spreading the word about this ever growing problem. Working together we can make a difference.

Should you have any questions concerning vehicle burglaries, other crimes or neighborhood watch, please contact the Frisco Police Department Community Services Division at (972) 292-6139/6134.

Should you need to report a crime, please call 911 or the Frisco Police Department non-emergency number (972) 292-6010.